IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 1 to 3, 9 to 11, 14, 17 and 19 to 21, and add new Claim 22 as follows. The claims, as pending in the subject application read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A communication system having a first communication apparatus capable of a first speech communication via a first communication line and a second communication apparatus capable of a second speech communication via the first communication line or a second communication line, comprising:

first speech means provided for the first communication apparatus for performing the first speech communication;

second speech means provided for the second communication apparatus for performing the second speech communication;

~~judging~~ detecting means for ~~judging~~ detecting a change of a connection status between the first communication apparatus and the second communication apparatus; and

switching means for switching a speech communication between the first speech communication via the first communication line by said first speech means and the second speech communication via the first communication line by said second speech means, in accordance with ~~a judgment by said judging means~~ detecting the change of the connection status by said detecting means,

wherein the speech communication over the first communication line is maintained even if there is a switch between the first speech communication and the second speech communication.

2. (Currently Amended) A communication system according to claim 1, wherein ~~the connection status judged by~~ said ~~judging~~ detecting means ~~is an~~ detects the change of the connection status based on an electrical connection status.

3. (Currently Amended) A communication system according to claim 1, wherein ~~the connection status judged by~~ said ~~judging~~ detecting means ~~is~~ detects the change of the connection status based on a physical connection status.

4. (Previously Presented) A communication system according to claim 1, wherein, in the case that the first and second communication apparatuses are connected with each other while the first communication apparatus performs the first speech communication via the first communication line by said first speech means, said switching means switches from the first speech communication via the first communication line by said first speech means to the second speech communication via the first communication line by said second speech means.

5. (Previously Presented) A communication system according to claim 1, wherein, in the case that the first and second communication apparatuses are

disconnected with each other while the second speech communication via the first communication line by the second speech means is performed, said switching means switches from the second speech communication via the first communication line by the second speech means to the first speech communication via the first communication line by the first speech means.

6. (Previously Presented) A communication system according to claim 1, further comprising supply means for supplying a power from the second communication apparatus to the first communication apparatus, in accordance with the connection status between the first and second communication apparatus.

7. (Previously Presented) A communication system according to claim 6, wherein said supply means supplies the power while the first communication apparatus does not perform speech communication.

8. (Previously Presented) A communication system according to claim 1, further comprising an echo canceller provided for the second communication apparatus, said echo canceller being used for the second communication via the second communication line, wherein the second speech communication via the first communication line by said second speech means is performed via said echo canceller.

9. (Currently Amended) A first communication apparatus ~~used in a communication system having the first communication apparatus capable of a first speech communication via first communication line and a second communication apparatus capable of a second speech communication via the first communication line or a second communication line, the second communication apparatus being provided with second speech means for performing the second speech communication, the first communication apparatus~~ comprising:

first speech means for performing ~~the~~ a first speech communication via ~~the~~ a first communication line;

~~judging~~ detecting means for ~~judging~~ detecting a change of a connection status between the first communication apparatus and a second communication apparatus, ~~apparatuses; and~~ wherein the second communication apparatus is capable of a second speech communication via the first communication line or a second communication line by a second speech means of the second communication apparatus; and

switching means for switching ~~from~~ the first speech communication via the first communication line by said first speech means to the second speech communication via the first communication line by said second speech means, in accordance with ~~a judgment by said judging means~~ detecting the change of the connection status by said detecting means,

wherein the speech communication over the first communication line is maintained even if there is a switch between the first speech communication and the second speech communication.

10. (Currently Amended) A first communication apparatus according to claim 9, wherein ~~the connection status judged by~~ said ~~judging~~ detecting means ~~is~~ detects the change of the connection status based on an electrical connection status.

11. (Currently Amended) A first communication apparatus according to claim 9, wherein ~~the connection status judged by~~ said ~~judging~~ detecting means ~~is~~ detects the change of the connection status based on a physical connection status.

12. (Previously Presented) A first communication apparatus according to claim 9, wherein, in the case that the first and second communication apparatuses are disconnected with each other while the first communication apparatus performs the first speech communication via the first communication line by said first speech means, said switching means switches from first speech communication via the first communication line by said first speech means to the second speech communication via the first communication line by the second speech means.

13. (Previously Presented) A first communication apparatus according to claim 9, wherein, in the case that the first and second communication apparatuses are disconnected with each other while the second speech communication apparatus performs the second speech communication via the first communication line by said second speech means, said switching means switches from second speech communication via the first

communication line by said second speech means to the first speech communication via the first communication line by the first speech means.

14. (Currently Amended) A first communication apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising supply means for supplying a power from the second communication apparatus to the first communication apparatus, in accordance with a ~~judgement~~ detection by said ~~judging~~ detecting means.

15. (Previously Presented) A first communication apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said supply means supplies the power while the first communication apparatus does not perform speech communication.

16. (Previously Presented) A first communication apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising an echo canceller provided for the second communication apparatus, said echo canceller being used for the second communication via the second communication line, wherein the second speech communication via the first communication line by the second speech means is performed via said echo canceller.

17. (Currently Amended) A second communication apparatus ~~used in a communication system having a first communication apparatus capable of a first speech communication via first communication line and the second communication apparatus capable of a second speech communication via the first communication line or a second~~

~~communication line, the first communication apparatus being provided with first speech means for performing the first speech, the second communication apparatus~~ comprising:

connecting means for connecting a first communication apparatus, which is capable of first speech communication via a first communication line by a first speech means of the first communication apparatus;

second speech means for performing ~~the~~ a second speech communication via the first communication line or a second communication line;

~~judging~~ detecting means for ~~judging~~ detecting a change of a connection status between the first communication apparatus and a second communication ~~apparatuses~~ apparatus; and

switching means for switching ~~from~~ the first speech communication via the first communication line by said first speech means ~~to~~ and the second speech communication via the first communication line by said second speech means, in accordance with ~~a judgment by said judging means~~ detecting the change of the connection status by said detecting means,

wherein the speech communication over the first communication line is maintained even if there is a switch between the first speech communication and the second speech communication.

18. (Previously Presented) A second communication apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising an echo canceller being used for the second

communication, wherein the second speech communication via the first communication by said second speech means is performed via said echo canceller.

19. (Currently Amended) A control method for a communication system having a first communication apparatus capable of a first speech communication via a first communication line and a second communication apparatus capable of a second speech communication via the first communication line or a second communication line, the first communication apparatus having a first speech ~~means~~ device for performing the first speech communication, and the second communication apparatus having a second speech ~~means~~ device for performing the second speech communication, the method comprising:

a ~~judging~~ detecting step of ~~judging~~ detecting a change of a connection status between the first and second communication apparatus; and

a switching step of switching ~~from~~ the first speech communication via the first communication line by said first speech ~~means to~~ device and the second speech communication via the first communication line by said second speech ~~means~~ device, in accordance with ~~a judgment by said judging step~~ detecting the change of the connection status in said switching step,

wherein the speech communication over the first communication line is maintained even if there is a switch between the first speech communication and the second speech communication.

20. (Currently Amended) A control method for a first communication apparatus ~~used in a communication system having the first communication apparatus~~ capable of a first speech communication via a first communication line and ~~a second communication apparatus capable of a second speech communication via the first communication line or a second communication line, the first communication apparatus~~ having a first speech ~~means~~ device for performing the first speech communication, ~~and the second communication apparatus having second speech means for performing the second speech communication,~~ the method comprising:

a ~~judging~~ detecting step of ~~judging~~ detecting a change of a connection status between the first and second communication apparatus, wherein the second communication apparatus is capable of a second speech communication via the first communication line or a second communication line and has a second speech device for performing the second speech communication; and

a switching step of switching ~~from~~ the first speech communication via the first communication line by said first speech ~~means to~~ device and the second speech communication via the first communication line by said second speech ~~means~~ device, in accordance with ~~a judgment by said judging step~~ detecting the change of the connection status in said switching step,

wherein the speech communication over the first communication line is maintained even if there is a switch between the first speech communication and the second speech communication.

21. (Currently Amended) A control method for a second communication apparatus ~~used in a communication system having a first communication apparatus capable of a first speech communication via a first communication line and a second communication apparatus~~ capable of a second speech communication via the first communication line or a second communication line, and ~~the first communication apparatus having first speech means for performing the first speech communication, and the second communication apparatus~~ having a second speech ~~means~~ device for performing the second speech communication, the method comprising:

a ~~judging~~ detecting step of ~~judging~~ detecting a change of a connection status between the first and second communication apparatus, wherein the first communication apparatus is capable of a first speech communication via a first communication line and has a first speech device for performing the first speech communication; and

a switching step of switching ~~from~~ the first speech communication via the first communication line by said first speech ~~means to~~ device and the second speech communication via the first communication line by said second speech ~~means~~ device, in accordance with ~~a judgment by said judging step~~ detecting the change of the connection status,

wherein the speech communication over the first communication line is maintained even if there is a switch between the first speech communication and the second speech communication.

22. (New) A first communication apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising:

second detecting means for detecting a connection status of the first communication line; and

communication means for communicating via the first communication line,

wherein said switching means connects said communication means with said second speech means in accordance with the detecting by said detecting means and said second detecting means.